

February
2021



**Park County Farm
Service Agency**

1017 Highway 14A
Powell, WY 82435

Phone: 307-754-9411
Fax: 855-415-3438

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Monday—Friday

County Executive Director:
Darla Rhodes

Program Technicians:
Tanya Butz
Marcia Shuler

Farm Loan:
Tom Schambow

County Committee:
Emily Karst—Chair-person
Tim Acord —Vice-chairperson
Lynn George —Member

Next Committee Meeting:
March 3, 2021

County Office Message

From Darla's Desk...

Greetings Park County farmers and ranchers! It has been cold outside, so I hope this finds you staying warm, and looking forward to warmer temperatures coming! Unfortunately, with those cold temperatures we always have to worry about livestock losses that might be occurring. It is very important if you are experiencing weather related livestock losses that you document all weather conditions, losses, and any other pertinent information. If you are experiencing more than normal losses, please contact me to report these losses and conditions. Check out the article in this newsletter for more information.

Also, please remember you must have your required paperwork on file with the office prior to losing beneficial interest in your wool to be eligible for a Wool Loan Deficiency Payment (LDP). The current LDP rate is \$0.40/lbs. Please stop by the office and complete the Page 1 to be eligible.

Our office is working hard to meet the upcoming deadlines:

- Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 – February 26, 2021
- Quality Loss Assistance Program – March 5, 2021
- Agricultural Risk Coverage/Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC) – March 15, 2021

If you have not completed your signup or have questions about these programs, please contact the office.

Park County Farm Service Agency Announces County Committee Election Results

Park County U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that County Committee elections are over and the ballots have been counted.

Lynn George of Cody was elected to represent local administrative area (LAA) #2.

County Committee members are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA. They help deliver programs at the county level and work to serve the needs of local producers. All recently elected county committee members will take office in January 2021 and will be joining the existing committee. Every FSA office is required to have a county committee, which are made up of local farmers, ranchers, and foresters elected by local producers.

County Committee members impact the administration of FSA within a community by applying their knowledge and judgement to help FSA make important decisions on commodity support programs, conservation programs, indemnity and disaster programs, emergency programs, and eligibility.

County Committee members serve local producers through their decision making and help shape the culture of a local FSA office. They also ensure the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties and are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. Members conduct hearings and reviews as requested by the state committee, ensure underserved farmers, ranchers, and foresters are fairly represented, make recommendations to the state committee on existing programs, monitor changes in farm programs, and inform farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs. They also assist with outreach and inform underserved producers, such as beginning farmers, ranchers, and foresters, about FSA opportunities.

Disaster Assistance Available for Livestock Losses

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to you for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease and attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law.

For disease losses, FSA county committees can accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management.

For 2020 livestock losses, you must file a notice within 30 calendar days of when the loss is first apparent. You then must provide the following supporting documentation to your local FSA office no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss condition occurred.

- Proof of death documentation
- Copy of grower's contracts
- Proof of normal mortality documentation

USDA has established normal mortality rates for each type and weight range of eligible livestock, i.e. Adult Beef Cow = 2% and Non-Adult Beef Cattle (less than 400 pounds) = 4.3%. These established percentages reflect losses that are considered expected or typical under "normal" conditions.

In addition to filing a notice of loss, you must also submit an application for payment by March 1, 2022.

For more information, contact the Park USDA Service Center at (307) 754-9411 Ext. 2 or visit fsa.usda.gov

Enrollment Begins for Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage for 2021

Agriculture producers can now make elections and enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2021 crop year. The signup period opened Tuesday, October 13, 2020. These key U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) safety-net programs help producers weather fluctuations in either revenue or price for certain crops, and more than \$5 billion in payments are in the process of going out to producers who signed up for the 2019 crop year.

Enrollment for the 2021 crop year closes **March 15, 2021**.

ARC provides income support payments on historical base acres when actual crop revenue declines below a specified guaranteed level.

PLC provides income support payments on historical base acres when the effective price for a covered commodity falls below its reference price.

Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium and short grain rice, safflower seed, seed cotton, sesame, soybeans, sunflowers seed, and wheat.

2021 Elections and Enrollment

Producers can elect coverage and enroll in crop-by-crop ARC-County, or PLC, or ARC-Individual for the entire farm, for the 2021 crop year. Although election changes for 2021 are optional, enrollment (signed contract) is required for each year of the program. If a producer has a multi-year contract on the farm and makes an election change for 2021, it will be necessary to sign a new contract.

If an election is not submitted by the deadline of March 15, 2021, the election defaults to the current election for the crop on the farm from the prior crop year.

For crop years 2022 and 2023, producers will have an opportunity to make new elections during those signups. Farm owners cannot enroll in either program unless they have a share interest in the farm.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

2021 Customer Calendar

Farm Service Agency

Farm Programs

- Agricultural Risk & Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC)
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)
- Commodity Marketing Assistance Loans (MAL)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)
- Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP)
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)
- Quality Loss Adjustment Program (QLA)

Farm Loans—No Application Deadlines

- Beginning Farmer & Rancher Loans
- Emergency Loans (Time Sensitive)
- Farm Operating Loans (Direct and Guaranteed)

LFP:

- Within 30 days after the end of the year in which the grazing loss occurred – submit Application for Payment and supporting documentation

LIP:

- Within 30 days of noticing Livestock loss or injury – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end of the year in which loss or injury occurred– Submit Application for Payment

ELAP:

- Within 30 days of livestock feed or pasture losses/issues due to extreme weather – Submit Notice of Loss
- Within 60 days after the end of the year in which loss occurred– Submit Application for Payment

MAL/LDP Availability (from harvest to the below deadline):

- January 31 - Wool, Mohair and LDP only for Unshorn Pelts
- March 31 - Barley, Canola, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rape-seed, Sesame seed and Wheat
- May 31 - Corn, Dry peas, Grain sorghum, Lentils, Mustard seed, Safflower, Small chickpeas, Large chickpeas, Soybeans and Sunflower seed

Farm Program Deadlines - (dates below are subject to change) *Contact your local office for more information or to make an appointment.*

Acreage Reports:

- July 15 – Soybeans, corn, and other spring-planted feed grains, CRP, Hemp, and other crops
- November 15 – Apiculture (bees), fall -seeded small grains

CRP General Signup: January 4 to February 12

Continuous CRP Signup: Ongoing

Quality Loss Adjustment Program (QLA) Signup: January 6 to March 5

CRP Grasslands Signup: March 15 to April 23

Farm Service Agency - Park County

1017 Highway 14A, Powell, WY 82435

Days USDA Offices Are Closed

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day Holiday
Jan. 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb. 15 - President's Birthday
May 31 - Memorial Day
July 4 - Independence Day
Sept. 6 - Labor Day
Oct. 11 - Columbus Day
Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
Nov. 25 - Thanksgiving Day

Questions?

Contact your local FSA office.

A directory of USDA Service Centers can be found online at **offices.usda.gov**

GovDelivery Email & SMS Text Updates

Contact your local FSA office ask how you can receive important FSA updates and reminders by email and SMS text subscriptions.

Have you moved?

Changed bank accounts?

Contact your local FSA to update your records.

Stay Connected with USDA:

**USDA Farm Service Agency
Park County FSA Office
1017 Highway 14A
Powell, WY 82435**

Submit Loan Requests for Financing Early

Farm Service Agency is already working on operating loans for spring 2021 and asks potential borrowers to submit their requests early so they can be timely processed. The farm loan team can help determine which loan programs are best for applicants.

FSA offers a wide range of low-interest loans that can meet the financial needs of any farm operation for just about any purpose. The traditional farm operating and farm ownership loans can help large and small farm operations take advantage of early purchasing discounts for spring inputs as well expenses throughout the year.

Microloans are a simplified loan program that will provide up to \$50,000 for both Farm Ownership and Operating Microloans to eligible applicants. These loans, targeted for smaller and non-traditional operations, can be used for operating expenses, starting a new operation, purchasing equipment, and other needs associated with a farming operation. Loans to beginning farmers and members of underserved groups are a priority.

Other types of loans available include:

Marketing Assistance Loans allow producers to use eligible commodities as loan collateral and obtain a 9-month loan while the crop is in storage. These loans provide cash flow to the producer and allow them to market the crop when prices may be more advantageous.

Farm Storage Facility Loans can be used to build permanent structures used to store eligible commodities, for storage and handling trucks, or portable or permanent handling equipment. A variety of structures are eligible under this loan, including bunker silos, grain bins, hay storage structures, and refrigerated structures for vegetables and fruit. A producer may borrow up to \$500,000 per loan.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Darla Rhodes at 307-754-9411 extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.